

Specification Amendments

At page 1, change the first paragraph to read as follows:

- - This application claims the benefit of priority of JP 2002 - 271963, filed 9/18/2002, the subject matter of which is hereby incorporated by reference. - -

At page 2, change the paragraph that begins at line 13 to read as follows:

- - For the microscope shown in Fig. 18, the second observation device 15 that provides observation images to the second observer is arranged directly below the first observation device 10. This causes both the space 19 (illustrated in Fig. 19, wherein the microscope is labeled 16) that is located below the eye level 18 of the first observer 17, when the second observer is positioned opposite the first observer to be narrowed. Referring to Fig. 20, it also causes and the space 21 to the right of the first observer 23 (Fig. 20); when the second observer is to the right of the first observer, to be narrowed. This causes a problem in that a treatment tool 24 (Fig. 20) held by the first observer 23 is more likely to come into contact with the second observation device 22 of the surgical microscope 20, thereby causing an inconvenience during surgery. - -

At page 12, change the paragraph that begins at line 11 to read as follows:

- - In addition, the single image rotator 120 housed within the intermediate optical tube is arranged so as to transmit simultaneously both light fluxes from the pair of relay optical systems. The single image rotator is rotated at a ratio of 1/2 of the rotation amount of the eyepiece optical tube 121. By combining the construction of the second observation device given above and the construction of the microscope body described above, it becomes possible to always observe an image that has a proper image orientation. Furthermore, when the second observation device is rotated from these three position positions within a range of angles where the pair of relay optical systems housed within the intermediate optical tube takes in the light fluxes, the second observer

can observe images with the correct image orientation. Further, by the effect of the image rotator, it is possible for the second observer to view an observation image with substantially no eclipsing of the light flux even if the eyepiece optical tube is rotated, thereby increasing the freedom in the observation positions of the second observer. The term “ocular optical system” as used ~~in claim 3~~ herein corresponds to the optical system composed of the optical elements 116 through 120 in Fig. 9(a) and includes the lens(es) in the eyepiece optical tube 121.

At page 13, change the first paragraph to read as follows:

- - Fig. 21 is an example of a housing 181 containing an image rotator optical system with an eyepiece lens tube 182 having a binocular optical system attached. Figs. 22(a) and 22(b) show horizontal and vertical cross-sectional views, respectively, of the interior of the housing 181. In the figures, a fixed tube 183 is provided having cylindrical steps and is designed so that two left and right observation optical axes L1 and L2 of light fluxes from an observation object (not shown) can ~~passed~~ pass through the interior of the fixed tube. - -

At page 24, change lines 1 - 10 of the Abstract of the Disclosure to read as follows:

- - An observation device ~~is disclosed that includes~~ including an intermediate tube that houses two relay optical systems and an image rotator, each relay optical system having an exit axis that is substantially parallel to the exit axis of the other relay optical system, and an ocular tube that houses two image formation optical systems and two eyepiece optical systems. The intermediate optical tube has a connecting portion that connects to a connector at the top of a stereoscopic microscope body at one end and is rotatably connected to the ocular tube at the other end, the ocular tube is extendable from, and collapsible into, the intermediate tube over a movement range in the direction of the exit optical axes of the pair of relay optical systems, and exit pupils of the pair of relay optical systems are arranged near a middle position of the range of movement of the ocular tube. - -